

HONORING FORMER PRESIDENT
GEORGE HERBERT WALKER
BUSH ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

SPEECH OF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 653, a resolution honoring President George Herbert Walker Bush, a true statesman and American hero, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday.

President Bush has devoted his life to the service of our nation. As a highly decorated Navy pilot in World War II; a distinguished Congressman and Ways and Means Committee Member from Texas's Seventh Congressional District; a successful Ambassador to the United Nations; Liaison to China; Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Vice President; and President of the United States—George Bush has ably served our country for over 50 years.

During that time, President Bush has exemplified the very highest values and principles of public service—honesty, integrity, responsibility, loyalty and patriotism. This is the Bush legacy and the example he set for all of us.

As a staff member who served in the Bush White House, I was privileged to learn this firsthand. His leadership as President was critical to resolving the challenges of that time: the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany; the end of Communism and beginning of democracy in Eastern Europe; a free trade policy and the lowering of trade restrictions and tariffs during the GATT talks; and of course, the success of Desert Storm. At home, he supported and signed the historic Americans with Disabilities Act; and the important amendments to the Clean Air Act, arguably the most important environmental legislation ever passed.

In his retirement, President Bush is still making history. I had the privilege of being present in College Station last weekend for his most recent birthday parachute jumps, for which he earned parachutist's wings from the Army's Golden Knights. The wings included a small bronze star, echoing his unplanned jump during World War II, when his torpedo bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire south of Japan.

Mr. Speaker, all of us congratulate President Bush on his birthday, and express our gratitude for his remarkable and unselfish public service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO STEVE
WARDELL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Steve Wardell and thank him for his dedication to Colorado as a Mineral County Commissioner. His tireless efforts have done much to ensure a promising future for his constituents. As Steve celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy

of commitment to the people of Mineral County and the State of Colorado.

During his tenure as commissioner, Steve worked on a number of issues for his Mineral County community. He was instrumental in putting together maps and a tabulation for the public rights of way in Mineral County. He also was involved in the approval of the preliminary plat of the Village at Wolf Creek, began the process for building a new Health Clinic in Mineral County, and pursued donations and grants to help repave the local airport runway.

As a dedicated member of the community, Steve volunteers his time to numerous civic organizations. He does the maintenance work on the county's ambulances, saving the Ambulance Board money to use on needed upgrades and equipment. He also is a volunteer fireman, and is always willing to help wherever he is needed.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that County Commissioner Steve Wardell has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his county and the people of Colorado as a County Commissioner for Mineral County. I am honored to bring his hard work and achievements to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service Steve, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, my thoughts and prayers go out to Mrs. Reagan and her family as our nation mourns the loss of President Reagan.

Our nation has lost a leader. President Reagan inspired Americans to a higher purpose. He believed, and led all Americans to believe, that our country could be the "shining city on the hill." It was his spirit and faith in American values that helped reinforce America's faith in itself.

I was serving in the North Dakota Legislature on the day President Reagan was shot. I remember the somber atmosphere and deep concern from Republicans and Democrats alike as legislators gathered around a television anxiously awaiting word on the President's condition. With characteristic optimism, President Reagan went on to recover from his wounds and continue to lead the nation as our President.

President Reagan's passing brings us sadness at the loss of an American leader, but reminds all of us of his lasting legacy of service to our nation.

RECOGNIZING CAROL CAROTHERS
(EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NAMI
MAINE)

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carol Carothers, who was recently

named a 2004 national Community Health Leader by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for her work to prevent inappropriate incarceration and improve the treatment of people with mental illnesses. Ms. Carothers was one of only ten people nationally to be selected for this prestigious award, which includes a grant of more than \$105,000 to support her work.

Ms. Carothers is executive director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) Maine. During her tenure, Ms. Carothers has dedicated herself to assisting families of people who have mental illness. Under her leadership, NAMI Maine has become a respected source for information on effective practices in treatment and diversion of the incarcerated mentally ill. Ms. Carothers has successfully assembled a broad-based coalition of families, inmates, providers, corrections and law enforcement professionals, State officials, and advocates to identify problems and solutions for inmates with mental illness. The program Ms. Carothers pioneered in Maine has become a model for other States seeking to train prison personnel to recognize the signs of mental illness and provide appropriate responses.

The suicide of an 18 year-old man in a maximum security prison 3 years ago inspired Ms. Carothers' interest in the plight of the incarcerated mentally ill. She now assists the State government in assessing the quality of prison programs, and provides education and training to law enforcement and corrections officers to promote more humane treatment.

NAMI Maine's Assistant Director put it best by saying, "[Carol is] propelled by the personal situations that illustrate the inhumane and immoral quality of inadequate treatment in the criminal justice system."

Mr. Speaker, I couldn't agree more. I'm honored to recognize Ms. Carothers for this national award, and express my gratitude for her determination and leadership. She has inspired many others in Maine and elsewhere to take action. This well-deserved award is confirmation of the importance of her work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENISE L. MAJETTE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Ms. MAJETTE. Mr. Speaker, on June 8th and 9th, 2004 I was not able to be here for three roll call votes.

On rollcall number 229 regarding H. Res. 663, expressing the profound regret and sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States of America, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall number 230, approving the Journal, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall number 231, regarding H. Res., honoring the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, I would have voted "yea".